

REMARKS

The Examiner's Final Office Action of April 7, 2004 has been received and its contents reviewed. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the consideration given to the above-identified application.

Claims 1-32 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 6, 11, 14, 17, and 22 are independent. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 11, 14, 17, and 22 have been amended. In view of these actions and the following remarks, reconsideration of this application is now requested.

Turning now to the detailed Office Action, all the independent claims are again rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Sawada (U.S. Patent No. 6,078,317) in view of Kuwabara (U.S. Patent No. 6,507,332). In the rejection of the pending independent claims, the Examiner acknowledges that Sawada fails to teach a digital video signal dividing circuit and asserts that it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Sawada and Kuwabara's inventions because, while Sawada teaches a method of controlling a display device with various display modes, Kuwabara teaches a method of driving the display device by using a video dividing scheme. In response to the rejection, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 6, 11, 14, 17 and 22, to add "said digital video signal dividing circuit is operationally connected to said control circuit and said source driver circuit is operationally connected to said digital video dividing circuit" in order to further clarify the positional relationship of the digital video signal dividing circuit, the source driver circuit and the control circuit. Applicants respectfully submit that this positional relationship cannot be obtained even if Kuwabara and Sawada were combined as suggested by the Examiner.

It is well settled that when combining the references in order to support a *prima facie* case of obviousness, the references must be considered in their entirety. It is further settled that the mere fact that the prior art may be modified to reflect features of the claimed invention does not make the modification and hence the claimed invention obvious unless the desirability of such modification is suggested by the prior art itself. Moreover, the claimed invention cannot be used as an instruction manual or "template" to piece together the teachings of the prior art so that the claimed invention is rendered obvious, *In Re Fritsch*, 23 USPQ2d 1780 (Fed. Cir. 1992). Additionally, the statements and facts at issue set forth in a

reference leading one of ordinary skill in the art away from the proposed modification must also be fully considered when combining references in order to support a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

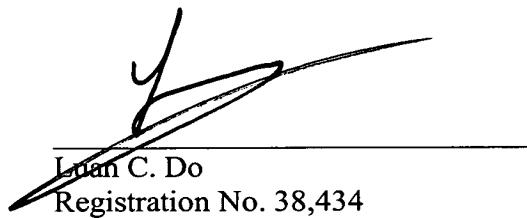
Without any suggestion by the cited prior art references to combine their respective teachings to arrive at Applicants' claimed invention including the features of the digital video signal dividing circuit being operationally connected to the control circuit, and the source driver circuit being operationally connected to the digital video dividing circuit as recited in the amended claims, the combination of Sawada and Kuwabara is insupportable in the §103(a) rejection. In other words, in the rejection, the Examiner has taken various features from Sawada and Kuwabara without taking into consideration each reference in its entirety and the lack of motivation or suggestion as to how to combine their respective features to arrive at Applicants' claimed invention. Hence, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established in the §103(a) rejection of the pending independent claims and their respective dependent claims.

In addition to the aforementioned amendments, Applicants further have deleted the limitation "directly" from the rejected independent claims. This limitation was added to the independent claim in the previous Amendment in response to the Examiner's previous §103(a) rejection and in an effort to overcome the cited prior art references. However, this limitation unduly limits the presently claimed invention and is now deleted.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all the pending rejections.

While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise, which could be eliminated through discussions with Applicants' representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,



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